

U. S. NAVAL RADIOLOGICAL DEFENSE LABORATORY
San Francisco 24, California

4510.1
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3-730/ALS:lrs
22 November 1954

4510.1
NRDL INSTRUCTION 4500.1

From: Director
To: Distribution List C

Subj: Disposal of Radioactive Waste; responsibilities relative to

1. Purpose. To outline procedures for the disposal of radioactive waste.

2. Discussion. Certain precautions must be taken in the disposal of radioactive waste. This Instruction sets forth the responsibilities of Laboratory personnel for preparing NRDL radioactive waste for disposal as well as their responsibilities relative to disposing of such waste by the Laboratory for other government and non-government activities.

3. Responsibilities.

a. Laboratory Radioactive Waste Disposal.

(1) Waste Removal. The Plant Support Branch, Code 3-242, will empty all waste containers and will supply containers to Laboratory spaces. Scientific investigators will notify Code 3-242 of full containers, will request their removal and replacement and/or additional containers. In order to expedite waste removal scientific investigators should anticipate waste disposal problems in specific experiments as far in advance as possible and advise Code 3-242 of the need for additional waste containers.

(2) Special Precautions.

(a) Health Physics Division will monitor all waste containers at regular intervals tagging any containers with special instructions, as necessary.

(b) Low activity liquid wastes may be disposed of directly into the sanitary sewer provided that a representative of Health Physics Division has been requested in advance to determine that disposal tolerances have not been exceeded.

(c) Liquid acid waste in laboratory waste containers should be neutralized by scientific investigators in all cases where feasible prior to its removal by Code 3-242. In cases where this is infeasible, scientific investigators should reduce the volume of such waste and advise Code 3-242 that it has not been neutralized.

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(d) Solid wastes should be handled with special care in disposal and removal processes because of hazards resulting from powdering and flaking of such materials.

(e) All waste disposal considered to be a special problem will be discussed with the Health Physics Division representative assigned to the division concerned.

b. Radioactive Waste Disposal for Outside Activities.

(1) Preliminary Arrangements. Initial contacts with outside activities desiring use of NRDL waste disposal services are made by the Health Physics Division. Liaison between these agencies and the Budget and Accounts Division for the purpose of funding for services will be established by the Health Physics Division.

(2) Disposal Operations. The Engineering Division will coordinate waste removal operations after initial contact has been made, and will notify the Health Physics Division of removal and disposal schedules so that the latter will be able to provide monitoring services as required.

4. Action. All persons in the Laboratory will be guided by the provisions of this Instruction in the disposal of radioactive waste.

5. Cancellation. This Instruction is effective on this date of issue and will remain in effect until cancelled by the Director or higher authority.


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